

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6004

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 7694

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR, U.S.

SUBJECT: EX-FOREIGN MINISTER MAVROS ON SECRETARY AS MEDIATOR

1. FORMER FONMIN GEORGE MAVROS, IN PRESENT CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN CENTER UNION PARTY, HELD PRESS CONFERENCE NOON TODAY. IN QUESTIONS DEALING WITH GREEK FOREIGN POLICY, MAVROS DISCUSSED GREEK ATTITUDE TOWARD U.S. ROLE AS MEDIATOR. ROUGH TRANSLATION OF QUESTION AND ANSWER FOLLOWS.

2. QUESTION: DO YOU THINK THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION MUST BEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR INVASION AND COUP IN CYPRUS? WOULD YOU ACCEPT KISSINGER AS MEDIATOR AND WOULD KISSINGER'S VISIT TO ATHENS BE ACCEPTABLE IF KISSINGER INSISTS ON COMING?

3. ANSWER: MY ANSWER IS LIMITED TO PERIOD WHEN I WAS SERVING AS FONMIN AND ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN CYPRUS CRISIS. I HAVE REPEATEDLY STRESSED THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PRESIDENT NIXON AND U.S. ADMINISTRATION VIS-A-VIS CYPRUS AND THAT THEY DID NOT MANAGE OR DID NOT WANT TO ACTIVATE THE MECHANISM NECESSARY TO THWART TURKEY'S INVASION. KISSINGER AS AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE NEVER ASSUMED ROLE OF MEDIATOR. AMERICA'S INTEREST IN FINDING SOLUTION IS JUSTIFIED AS IS THEIR CONCERN IN ALL WORLD PROBLEMS. KISSINGER WAS NEVER AUTHORIZED BY GREEK GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS OR ACT AS MEDIATOR. WHATEVER HE HAS DONE HE HAS DONE ON HIS OWN WITH NO AUTHORIZATION FROM US.

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